Applicant: Mary K. Toth et al.

Serial No.: 09/483,039 Filed: January 18, 2000

Docket No.: GMI5212USA (G180.122.101)

Title: ATTACHABLE SNACK FOOD CONTAINER

- 4. The snack food container of claim 3, wherein the inner surface is substantially annular.
- 5. The snack food container of claim 3, wherein the inner surface includes a receiving section for interfacing with a top portion of the beverage container, the receiving section defining a diameter slightly greater than a diameter of the top portion of the separate beverage container.
- 6. The snack food container of claim 5, wherein the receiving section defines a diameter in the range of approximately 52-55 mm.

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7.(Amended) The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the inner surface includes a first section adjacent the bottom wall and a second section extending from the first section, the first section being vertical.

- 8. The snack food container of claim 7, wherein the second section expands outwardly from the first section for guiding the snack food container onto a beverage container.
- 9. The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the flange body further comprises: at least one retention tab extending in a generally radial fashion from the inner surface, the at least one retention tab being axially spaced from the bottom wall.
- 10. The snack food container of claim 9, wherein the at least one retention tab is configured to selectively engage a separate beverage container.
- 11. The snack food container of claim 9, further comprising:a plurality of retention tabs circumferentially spaced along the inner surface.

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12. The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the snack food container forms a slot extending from the side wall to the bottom wall such that an area below the bottom wall is accessible from an exterior of the side wall via the slot.

- 13. The snack food container of claim 12, wherein the slot is sized to allow passage of a straw.
- 14. The snack food container of claim 12, wherein the slot extends in an angular fashion from the bottom wall to the side wall.
- 15. The snack food container of claim 12, wherein the slot extends through the flange body.
- 16. The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the side wall, the bottom wall and the flange body are integrally formed.
- 17. The snack food container of claim 1, further comprising: a protective film secured across the upper opening.
- 18.(Amended) The snack food container of claim 1, further comprising: a straw removably associated with the side wall.
- 19.(Amended) A packaged good article comprising:
 - a snack food container comprising:
 - a side wall forming an upper opening,
 - a bottom wall connected to the side wall opposite the upper opening,
 - a flange body extending downwardly from the bottom wall, the flange body defining an inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surface being configured for selective attachment to a separate beverage container and characterized by the absence of threads,

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wherein the snack food container defines an internal storage region; and a snack food product contained within the internal storage region apart from the inner surface of the flange body.

- The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the inner surface of the flange body is 20. sized in accordance with a top portion of an available beverage container having a predetermined outer dimension.
- The packaged good article of claim 20, wherein the available beverage container is 21. cylindrical such that the predetermined outer dimension is a diameter.
- The packaged good article of claim 21, wherein the inner surface is substantially annular. 22.
- 23. The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the inner surface includes a receiving section for interfacing with a top portion of the beverage container, the receiving section defining a diameter slightly greater than a diameter of the top portion of a separate beverage container.
- The packaged good article of claim 23, wherein the receiving section defines a diameter 24. in the range of approximately 52-55 mm.

25.(Amended) The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the inner surface includes a first section, adjacent the bottom wall and a second section extending from the first section, the first section being vertical.

- The packaged good article of claim 24, wherein the second section expands outwardly 26. from the first section for guiding the snack food container onto a beverage container.
- The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the flange body further comprises: 27.

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at least one retention tab extending in a generally radial fashion from the inner surface, the at least one retention tab being axially spaced from the bottom wall.

- 28. The packaged good article of claim 27, wherein the at least one retention tab is configured to selectively engage the separate beverage container.
- 29. The packaged good article of claim 27, further comprising:a plurality of retention tabs circumferentially spaced along the inner surface.
- 30. The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the snack food container forms a slot extending from the side wall to the bottom wall such that an area below the bottom wall is accessible from an exterior of the side wall via the slot.
- 31. The packaged good article of claim 30, wherein the slot is sized to allow passage of a straw.
- 32. The packaged good article of claim 30, wherein the slot extends in an angular fashion from the bottom wall to the side wall.
- 33. The packaged good article of claim 30, wherein the slot extends through the flange body.
- 34. The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the side wall, the bottom wall and the flange body are integrally formed.
- 35. The packaged good article of claim 19, further comprising: a protective film secured across the upper opening.
- 36.(Amended) The packaged good article of claim 19, further comprising: a straw removably associated with the side wall.

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37. The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the snack food product includes a plurality of dried food items.

38.(Amended) A snack food container comprising:

- a side wall forming an upper opening;
- a bottom wall connected to the side wall opposite the upper opening;
- a flange body extending downwardly from the bottom wall; and
- retaining means associated with the flange body for selectively attaching the snack food container to a separate beverage container, the retaining means characterized by the absence of threads;

wherein the side wall, the bottom wall, the flange body and the retaining means are integrally formed, and form an internal storage region for containing a snack food product apart from the retaining means.

39.(Amended) The snack food container of claim 38, wherein the retaining means includes a substantially annular surface formed by the flange body, the substantially annular surface having a diameter approximating a diameter of an available cylindrical beverage container.

- 40. The snack food container of claim 38, further comprising:

 a slot extending from the side wall to the bottom wall for providing access to an area below the bottom wall from an exterior of the side wall.
- 41. The snack food container of claim 40, wherein the slot extends through the flange body.

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42. The snack food container of claim 38, further comprising:

a protective film sealed across the upper opening.